

Appl. No.: 09/813,446
Amdt. Dated: 02/23/2004
Off. Act. Dated: 12/17/2003

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and discussion presented herein.

1. Allowance of Claims.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing Claims 59-97, 102-122 and 127-144.

2. Provisional Double-Patenting Rejection.

Claims 98-101 and 123-126 were provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 for statutory double patenting based on Claims 34-36 and 44-46 of copending application serial number 09/849,096 for the reasons stated in the Office Action.

In response, and without acquiescing to the Examiner's grounds for rejection or claim interpretation, the Applicant notes that Claims 34-36 and 44-46 of copending application serial number 09/849,096 were canceled in Applicant's response filed in that case on 12/29/2003. Therefore, the provisional double patenting rejection is now moot.

3. Related Applications and Patents.

To assist the Examiner with coordination of examination of this application with other pending applications, and to ensure that there are no unknown patents or applications relating to the subject matter hereof, the Applicant notes the other related applications and issued patents in this portfolio as follows:

- (a) S/N 09/849,096 (filed 05/04/01)
- (b) S/N 09/928,237 (filed 08/10/01)
- (c) S/N 10/293,897 (filed 11/12/02)
- (d) S/N 10/293,949 (filed 11/12/02)
- (e) U.S. No. 6,097,859 (issued 08/01/00)
- (f) U.S. No. 6,289,145 (issued 09/11/01)
- (g) U.S. No. 6,327,398 (issued 12/04/01)
- (h) U.S. No. 6,374,008 (issued 04/16/02)
- (i) U.S. No. 6,389,190 (issued 05/14/02)